GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3929
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2002
IRREGULARITIES IN PURCHASE OF WHEAT
A.P. JITHENDER REDDY

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether large scale irregularities have been reported in purchase of Australian wheat by the State Trading Corporation causing huge losses to the exchequer;

(b) if so, whether a preliminary enquiry has been initiated in the matter of over-pricing of imported wheat;

(c) if so, whether legal recourse and investigation has been undertaken; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) to (d) : CBI has been investigating the charges of corruption in regard to import of 1.5 million tons of wheat by STC from the Australians Wheat Board (AWB) in 1998.CBI has registered Regular Case in September 2001.Since CBI is seized of the case, no inference can be drawn at this stage.